

**To:** Brown, Jamesr[brown.jamesr@epa.gov]; Atkins, Blake[Atkins.Blake@epa.gov]  
**From:** Ngo, Kim  
**Sent:** Sat 8/15/2015 12:23:44 AM  
**Subject:** Mescalero call notes 8/14

EPA: Jerry, Willie, Blake (by phone), Randy, Mark, Tom Ruiz, Ellen, Chelo, Kim

Mescalero: Thora Padilla (DMRP), Alfredo Pacheco (Roads), Sterlen Kane, John Wheeler (general counsel), Clyde Davis Jr (Parks n Recreation), President Brueninger

Staffing:

- Utility Dept (Alfred) – hired 1 new operator.
- DRMP (Thora) - hired 1 new operator. This is in addition to the 2 operators Kathy Eisen and Sterlen Kane Jr.
- Tribal Maintenance - hired 1.

Alfred Pacheco plans on asking Tribal Council for an expanded budget next FY to hire 2 more operators

Thora's department sent a progress report correcting 27 deficiencies. Though there are many more deficiencies that remain, Jerry commended the tribe for forward progress

Since Alfred's department did not send EPA a progress report, he will send one in 1-2 weeks.

Alfred expects to meet the 12/31/15 deadlines related to the HIS-project, but the 6/30/15 deadlines will be delayed to 9/30/15.

Alfred and Thora asked EPA to nudge HIS.

Alfred and Thora stated that their goal is to ultimately not be free from an EPA enforcement order.

IHS hired Robert Trujillo to be involved in all aspects of the Tribe's projects. He's been there for 6 weeks. He is getting up to speed on housing and sewer projects, then water projects.

EPA will hold monthly calls with Mescalero (last Friday of the month) at the technical level and invite HIS. If needed, EPA can involve the President quarterly.

First call is September 25, 2015 11:00 CT

At the end of the call the Tribe asked about the status of the Animas River. They were interested in hearing updates.

Randy Gee and Tom Ruiz committed to an update at the Tribal Caucus on 2<sup>nd</sup> week of September. Randy will send Mescalero the call in number for the Caucus

As Jerry hung up the phone, we could hear the President telling his staff that he was pleased with his staff's forward progress and it was a positive call with EPA.